

Message Text

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ORIGIN STR-03

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DRAFTED BY STR:RLHEFFERAN:RCF

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL MTN GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 005200

FOLLOWING REPEAT COLOMBO 4016 ACTION SECSTATE 19 DEC

QUOTE

UNCLAS COLOMBO 4016

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, CE

SUBJ: SRI LANKA: GSP ELIGIBLE PRODUCTS

REFS: A) STATE 294642 B) PARA 6, GENEVA 9223 C) COLOMBO

A 149 JUNE 27, 1973 D) STATE 153537, AUG 6, 1973

1. MANY THANKS FOR FAST ANSWER IN REF A. WE HAVE GIVEN LIST TO GSL COMMERCE DEPT (CD) IN COMPARING REF A LISTS WITH GSL REQUESTS, WE DISCOVER FOLLOWING APPARENT DISCREPANCIES ON WHICH GSL AND WE REQUEST CLARIFICATION.

2. IN ORIGINAL REUEST (REF C) THREE ITEMS WERE INCLUDED WHICH DO NOT APPEAR IN PARA 1, REF A LIST. THESE WERE:
14898 PINEAPPLES, PREPARED OR PRESERVED.
16123 CLOVES AND CLOVE STEMS GROUND.
17604 COCONUT OIL. CD HAD EARLIER SONDERSTOOD FROM GSL EMBASSY, WASHINGTON COMMERICAL OFFICER THAT THESE PROUDCTS WERE EARLIER ELIMINATED AND NOT SUBMITTED FORMALLY TO INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION. THUS THEY WERE NOT INCLUDED IN GSL'S

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SECOND REQUEST UNDER GSL EMBASSY WASHINGTON FIRST PERSON NOTE,

DATED 25 JULY, 1975.

CD AND WE REQUEST CLARIFICATION THAT THESE ITEMS WERE FORMALLY CONSIDERED FOR GSP ELIGIBILITY BUT EXCLUDED ON MERITS.

3. CD HAD UNDERSTOOD THAT 1450 8 (PARA 2, REF A) COCONUT MEAT, SHREDDED AND DESICCATED OR SIMILARLY PREPARED, WOULD BE INCLUDED. SINCE THIS SIGNIFICANT SRI LANKA EXPORT CD WOULD LIKE TO KNOW RATIONALE FOR REJECTION AND WHETHER ANY RECONSIDERATION PROBABLE.

4. BOTH 4 JUNE, 1973 TRADE MINISTERS LETTER AND 25 JULY, 1975 NOTE REQUESTED FOLLOWING ITES: 1495) OTHER FRUITS - PREPARED OR PRESERVED; 16165 NUTMEG GROUND; 51721 GRAPHITE, CRYSTALLINE FLAKE, VALUED NOT OVER 5.5 CTS PER POUND. THESE ITEMS DO NOT APPEAR IN PARAS 1, 2 OR 3, REF A. WHAT IS THEIR STATUS? (51724 GRAPHITE - VALUED OVER 5.5 CENTS PER POUND WAS ALSO REQUESTED BUT APPEARS IN PARA 3 LIST). FINALLY, ACCORDING CD, GSL HAD NOT RPT NOT REQUESTED "TEA, SOLUABLE OR INSTANT, EXTRACTS, ESSENCES" SINCE THEY UNDERSTOOD IT WAS ALREADY DUTY FREE, LIKE BULK PROCESSED TEA. PARA 2 REF A SHOWS THIS ITEM REQUESTED AND NOT GRANTED. CD BELIEVES EXCLUSION MAY RELATE TO NOMENCLATURE, UNIT SIZE OR PACKAGING BUT REQUESTS CLARIFICATION.

5. GSL EMBASSY WASHINGTON, WHIX HAS BEEN IN PERIODIC CONTACT WITH CD CONCERNING GSP, MAY HAVE REQUEUIED THESE CLARIFICATIONS SINCE GSP IMPLEMENTATION ANNOUNCED BUT CD HAS SO FAR NOT HEARD FROM THE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE THESE ANSWERS PROMPTLY SINCE GSL AGENCIES AND COMMERCE CHAMBERS VERY INTERESTED. WE APPRECIATE, HOWEVER, WASHINGTON AGENCIES PROBABLY SWAMPED WITH SIMILAR GSP INQUIRIES.

VAN HOLLEN
UNQTE. KISSINGER

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